

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-27 of the present application are pending. The Examiner has indicated that there are distinct inventions claimed in the present application and has required that prosecution be restricted to either claims 1-14, drawn to a composition of matter, or claims 15-27, drawn to a method for releasing ethylene gas into a botanical system. The Applicant respectfully submits that examination of all pending claims is not unduly burdensome and can be easily performed given the relationship of the subject matter of these claims. However, in an effort to advance prosecution of the present application, the Applicant elects to prosecute, with traverse, claims 1-14.

The Examiner has further required that an election be made among different species. Pursuant to this requirement, the office action listed both the cross-linked aminoplast foam and the nitrogenous microporous solid as Species I. The Applicant elects to prosecute the species relating to the nitrogenous microporous solid, which applicant believes should have been designated as Species II.

If the Examiner feels for any reason that direct contact with Applicant's attorney will advance the prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this response to deposit account No. 50-1329.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/19/04



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